

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 04127 160844Z POSS DUPE
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 OMB-01 /076 W
-----110480 160927Z /14
O 160830Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1113

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4127

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MORG, MARR, KS, US
SUBJECT: COMBINED FORCES COMMAND: PRESS SPECULATION

1. AFTERNOON VERNACULAR PRESS MAY 15 AND MORNING ENGLISH PRESS MAY 16 CARRIED STORIES ON THE COMBINED FORCES COMMAND. STORIES SPECULATE THAT AN AGREEMENT WAS BEING DISCUSSED FOR SIGNATURE AT THE JULY SCM WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH THE COMBINED FORCES COMMAND FOLLOWING RATIFICATION BY THE U.S. CONGRESS AND THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. STORIES FURTHER SPECULATE THAT CFC WILL TAKE OVER FROM UNC OPERATIONAL COMMAND OF FORCES IN KOREA. MOST PRESS STORIES SOURCED REPORT TO GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL BUT KOREA HERALD GIVES SOURCE AS MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

2. WE HAVE MADE STRONG REPRESENTATION TO MOFA OVER THESE STORIES AND THE POSSIBLE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES THAT COULD RESULT. IN ADDITION, ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY 16 THE EMBASSY ISSUED THE FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE:

BEGIN QUOTE: THE EMBASSY HAS NOTED PRESS REPORTS WHICH STATE THAT CONSIDERATION IS BEING GIVEN TO THE SIGNING OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA CONCERNING ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMBINED FORCES COMMAND AND THAT THE NEW COMMAND WILL TAKE OVER OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF FORCES IN KOREA FROM THE UNITED NATIONS
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COMMAND. THE EMBASSY DENIES THAT AN AGREEMENT IS UNDER CONSIDERATION, NOTING THAT THE COMBINED FORCES COMMAND HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF THE MUTUAL SECURITY TREATY AND NO FURTHER AUTHORITY IS REQUIRED OR CONTEMPLATED.

3. COMMENT: WE ARE HOPEFUL THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO

NIP THIS SPECULATION BEFORE IT GROWS TALL ENOUGH TO GIVE
US TROUBLE.
SNEIDER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMED FORCES, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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Film Number: D780206-0279
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780554/aaaabthi.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: df463e9c-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2677159
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: COMBINED FORCES COMMAND: PRESS SPECULATION
TAGS: MORG, MARR, KS, US
To: STATE
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